

Art Unit: 3733

In claim 45, line 2, "the linking portion" has been changed to --the first linking portion --.

In claim 51, line 2, "the linking portion" has been changed to --the second linking portion --.

In claim 52, line 1, "the linking portion" has been changed to --the first linking portion --.

In claim 53, line 3, "a linking portion" has been changed to --a first linking portion --.

In claim 53, line 4, "one of the fixation elements" has been changed to --one of the elongate spinal fixation elements --.

In claim 53, line 4, "the linking portion" has been changed to --the first linking portion --.

In claim 53, line 12, "the linking portion" has been changed to --the second linking portion --.

Lji 7/20/04
In claim 53, line ¹⁴~~13~~, "the fixation elements" has been changed to --the elongate spinal fixation elements --.

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In claim 53, line ¹⁷~~16~~, "second fixation elements" has been changed to -- second elongate spinal fixation elements --.

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In claim 53, line ²¹~~20~~, "the linking portion" has been changed to --the first linking portion --.

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In claim 53, line ²²~~21~~, "the linking portion" has been changed to --the second linking portion --.